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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail on APRIL 4, 2002 in an envelope addressed to: United States Patent & Trademark Office, P.O. Box 2327, Arlington VA 22202

Date APRIL 4, 2002 Sig: Marjorie Scariati  
Name: Marjorie Scariati

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Fwu-Iuan Hshieh et al.

**RECEIVED**

Serial No.: 10/010,162

APR 11 2002

Filed: 11/20/01

**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

Title: METHOD OF FORMING NARROW TRENCHES IN SEMICONDUCTOR SUBSTRATES

Art Unit: 2812

Docket No.: GS 149

United States Patent & Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 2327  
Arlington, VA 22202

Attn: Mailstop Filing Date

**PETITION TO CORRECT THE FILING DATE UNDER CFR 1.183**

Sir:

This is a Petition to Correct the Filing Date Under 37 CFR 1.183

Applicant's attorney attempted to file this application via Express Mail on November 20, 2001, however, on that date the United States Postal Service (USPS) refused to accept the deposit of mail for delivery by Express Mail Service. Per the instructions provided by the PTO website at [www.uspto.gov/september11/uspsmaildisrup.htm](http://www.uspto.gov/september11/uspsmaildisrup.htm), the application was re-deposited with the USPS on November 20, 2001 as first class mail, and was mailed to the Assistant

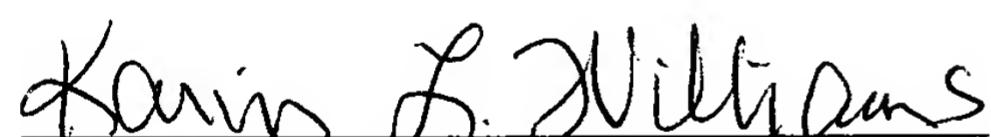
Commissioner for Patents at the special "Box Filing Date" address. Per the PTO's instructions, a statement signed and dated by the person who originally attempted to deposit the correspondence with the USPS as Express Mail was included, explaining the above situation. A copy of the signed statement that accompanied the application when filed via first class mail is enclosed for reference.

The undersigned attorney has since received the filing receipt, and notes that the application was not accorded the November 20, 2001 filing date. Instead, the application received a filing date of December 10, 2001, which was the date of receipt by the PTO.

As the US PTO designated the disruption in Express Mail service on November 20, 2001 as a postal service interruption within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. 21(a) and 37 CFR 1.6(e), and the special emergency procedures provided by the US PTO were correctly followed, applicant's attorney submits that this application is entitled to the November 20, 2001 filing date. Applicant hereby petitions the Assistant Commissioner to correct the filing date of this application to November 20, 2001.

While the PTO is hereby authorized to charge the \$130 Petition Fee to the undersigned attorney's PTO Deposit Account #50-1047, it is respectfully requested that the fee be immediately refunded upon grant of this petition.

Respectfully submitted,



Karin L. Williams

Registration No. 36,721

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November 20, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box Filing Date  
Washington, DC 20231

RECEIVED  
APR 11 2002

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Re: New U.S. Patent Application  
Inventor: Fwu-Iuan Hshieh et al.  
Filed: Herewith  
Title: METHOD OF FORMING NARROW TRENCHES IN  
SEMICONDUCTOR SUBSTRATES  
Docket: GS 149

I hereby declare that I attempted to deposit the above-referenced new U.S. Patent Application with the United States Postal Service (USPS, Westfield, New Jersey) as Express Mail under 37 CFR 1.10 on November 20, 2001, and the USPS refused to accept this correspondence due to the recent emergency.

Per the instructions provided by the US PTO website ([www.uspto.gov/september11/uspsmaildisrup.htm](http://www.uspto.gov/september11/uspsmaildisrup.htm)), the above-referenced application has been re-deposited with the USPS on November 20, 2001 as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, BOX FILING DATE, Washington, DC 20231.

A November 20, 2001 filing date is respectfully requested.

Yours truly,  
MAYER FORTKORT & WILLIAMS, PC  
*Marjorie Scariati*  
Marjorie Scariati  
Patent Paralegal

Enclosure